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Secretary Gale expects voter turnout to reach 800,000

LINCOLN – Secretary of State John Gale says Nebraska voter turnout for the Nov. 4 election should be about 800,000 when figures are finalized.

The 800,000 figure would be a record, breaking the mark of 792,827 set in the 2004 presidential election.

Unofficial figures show that turnout was over 785,000 or 68 percent of registered voters. That number will grow after election officials process absentee ballots that arrived on Election Day and provisional ballots.

Gale had predicted that 72 percent of registered voters would cast ballots. Lower than anticipated turnout in the 3rd Congressional District reduced expected statewide turnout, he said.

Unofficial figures show the following turnout figures for the congressional districts: 1st District, 68.6 percent; 2nd District, 67.3 percent; and 3rd District, 67.8 percent.

Gale said he was pleased that the election in Nebraska went extremely well, and there were no major problems.

"That is a credit to the work of our county election officials and our dedicated poll workers," he said. "I also credit the voters who exhibited Nebraska common sense and good manners at the polls."